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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

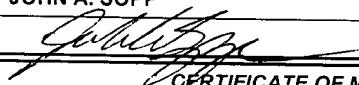
Application Number	09/446,298
Filing Date	June 12, 2000
Examiner Name	Leanna M. Roche #116
First Named Inventor	Dieter LUBDA et al. #16
Group Art Unit	1771 #16
Attorney Docket Number	MERCK-2047 31103

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
 - a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
 - b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other Declaration, and Petition for Extension of Time
2. Miscellaneous
 - a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
 - b. Other _____
3. Fees
 - a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. _____
 - i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. Other _____
 - b. Check in the amount of \$ 1,680.00 enclosed
 - c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print /Type)	JOHN A. SOPP	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	33,103
Signature		Date	February 14, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print /Type)	
Signature	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Deiter LUBDA et al.

Serial No.: 09/446,298

Examiner: Leanna M. Roche

Filed: June 12, 2000

Group Art Unit: 1771

Title: HOLDING DEVICE FOR MONOLITHIC SORBENTS

#17/C
LW
3-11-03

AMENDMENT WITH RCE FILING

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Concurrent with the RCE filing in this application and in response to the Office Actions mailed August 14 and December 3, 2002, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 5, and add new claims 16 and 17 as shown on the following pages.

A marked-up version of claim 5 is attached hereto entitled "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made."